

I am very disturbed at the corporate conglomeration of the media. It ultimately means less voices get heard, and less voices will lead to the degradation of our democracy. As far as I am concerned, it is too late. I ALREADY feel that because I do not have millions of dollars, my voice goes unheard by my politicians. Unless I can buy their time, either by giving expensive gifts or sending them on a nice vacation, as many corporations do, the politicians do not hear me, their constituent. Now, the same thing is happening in the media. I have resorted to watching the BBC, reading more print, and reading freelance reports on the internet to get better coverage of world events. I have done this for more than ten years now, because the major networks focus too much on celebrities (I REALLY stopped watching the networks during the OJ Simpson trial--I knew about the GENUINE news stories, unlike so many others), sensationalism, and scandal rather than the seriousness of world events. By practicing the "multi-source" rule for myself, I am aware of the one-sided, slanted, and sadly, more often NON-coverage of many grave events from around the world.

The FCC MUST put a limit on how many media outlets can be owned by one person, company, or corporation. Journalists should not be made to feel pressure from a parent company concerning what they report, even if it is a negative portrayal of some aspect of that company. Corporations should not control the press or our first amendment right to the freedom of speech. This is absolutely FUNDAMENTAL to the health of our society and democracy.

Please limit how many media outlets can be owned by one entity.